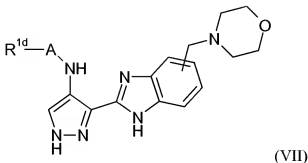


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1-81. (Canceled)

82. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula (VII):



or a salt or N-oxide thereof;

wherein A is $-(CH_2)_m-(B)_n$; where m is 0 or 1, n is 1 and B is C=O or NR^g(C=O); and R^g is hydrogen; and

R^{1d} is a group R¹ where R¹ is hydrogen, an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic group having from 3 to 12 ring members, or an optionally substituted C₁₋₈ hydrocarbyl group,

wherein the optional substituents for the C₁₋₈ hydrocarbyl group are selected from hydroxy, oxo, alkoxy, carboxy, halogen, cyano, nitro, amino, mono- or di-C₁₋₄ hydrocarbylamino, and monocyclic or bicyclic carbocyclic and heterocyclic groups having from 3 to 12 ring members;

and, wherein the carbocyclic and heterocyclic groups in each instance are unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituent groups R¹⁰ selected from:

halogen, hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, carboxy, amino, mono- or di-C₁₋₄ hydrocarbylamino, carbocyclic and heterocyclic groups having from 3 to 12 ring members; a group R^a-R^b wherein R^a is a bond, O, CO, X¹C(X²), C(X²)X¹, X¹C(X²)X¹, S, SO, SO₂, NR^c, SO₂NR^c or NR^cSO₂; and R^b is selected from hydrogen, carbocyclic and heterocyclic groups having from 3 to 12 ring members, and a C₁₋₈ hydrocarbyl group

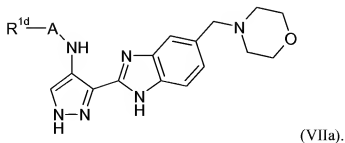
optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, oxo, halogen, cyano, nitro, carboxy, amino, mono- or di-C₁₋₄ hydrocarbylamino, carbocyclic and heterocyclic groups having from 3 to 12 ring members and wherein one or more carbon atoms of the C₁₋₈ hydrocarbyl group may optionally be replaced by O, S, SO, SO₂, NR^c, X¹C(X²), C(X²)X¹ or X¹C(X²)X¹; or two adjacent groups R¹⁰, together with the carbon atoms or heteroatoms to which they are attached may form a 5-membered heteroaryl ring or a 5- or 6-membered non-aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring, wherein the said heteroaryl and heterocyclic groups contain up to 3 heteroatom ring members selected from N, O and S;

R^c is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₄ hydrocarbyl; and

X¹ is O, S or NR^c and X² is =O, =S or =NR^c;

and provided that where the substituent group R¹⁰ comprises or includes a carbocyclic or heterocyclic group, the said carbocyclic or heterocyclic group may be unsubstituted or may itself be substituted with one or more further substituent groups R^{10'} [[R¹⁰ and]] wherein (a) such further substituent groups R^{10'} are defined as R¹⁰ but include carbocyclic or heterocyclic groups, which are not themselves further substituted; or (b) the said further substituents R^{10'} do not include carbocyclic or heterocyclic groups but are otherwise selected from the groups listed above in the definition of R¹⁰.

83. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 82, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, having the formula (VIIa):



84-95. (Canceled)

96. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as defined in claim 82, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 97-99. (Canceled)
100. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 82, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R^1 is an optionally substituted monocyclic or bicyclic carbocyclic or heterocyclic group having from 3 to 12 ring members.
101. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R^1 is an optionally substituted monocyclic or bicyclic carbocyclic or heterocyclic group having from 3 to 10 ring members.
102. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R^1 is unsubstituted.
103. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R^1 is substituted by 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 substituents R^{10} .
104. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R^1 is a substituted group and the substituents on R^1 are selected from the group R^{10a} consisting of halogen, hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, carboxy, heterocyclic groups having 5 or 6 ring members and up to 2 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, a group R^a-R^b wherein R^a is a bond, O, CO, $X^3C(X^4)$, $C(X^4)X^3$, $X^3C(X^4)X^3$, S, SO, or SO_2 , and R^b is selected from hydrogen, a heterocyclic group having 5 or 6 ring members and up to 2 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, and a C_{1-8} hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, oxo, halogen, cyano, nitro, carboxy, amino, mono- or di- C_{1-4} hydrocarbylamino, carbocyclic and heterocyclic groups having 5 or 6 ring members and up to 2 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S; wherein one or more carbon atoms of the C_{1-8} hydrocarbyl group may optionally be replaced by O, S, SO, SO_2 , $X^3C(X^4)$, $C(X^4)X^3$ or $X^3C(X^4)X^3$; X^3 is O or S; and X^4 is =O or =S.

105. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R^1 is a substituted group and the substituents on R^1 are selected from the group R^{10b} consisting of halogen, hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, carboxy, and a group R^a-R^b wherein R^a is a bond, O, CO, $X^3C(X^4)$, $C(X^4)X^3$, $X^3C(X^4)X^3$, S, SO, or SO_2 , and R^b is selected from hydrogen and a C_{1-8} hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, oxo, halogen, cyano, nitro, and carboxy; wherein one or more carbon atoms of the C_{1-8} hydrocarbyl group may optionally be replaced by O, S, SO, SO_2 , $X^3C(X^4)$, $C(X^4)X^3$ or $X^3C(X^4)X^3$; X^3 is O or S; and X^4 is =O or =S.
106. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein the substituents on R^1 are selected from halogen, hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, and a group R^a-R^b wherein R^a is a bond or O, and R^b is selected from hydrogen and a C_{1-4} hydrocarbyl group optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxyl and halogen.
107. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R^1 is a phenyl group which is 2,6-disubstituted, 2,3-disubstituted, 2,4-disubstituted, 2,5-disubstituted, 2,3,6-trisubstituted or 2,4,6-trisubstituted.
108. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R^1 is a phenyl group which is disubstituted at positions 2- and 6- with substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine and R^a-R^b , where R^a is O and R^b is C_{1-4} alkyl.
109. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted non-aromatic carbocyclic group having from 3 to 7 ring members.
110. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein [[the]] R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted non-aromatic carbocyclic group [[has]] having from 3 to 6 ring members.

111. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 100, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein the substituted or unsubstituted non-aromatic carbocyclic group R^1 is a cycloalkyl group.

112. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 82, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein A is $NH(C=O)$ or $C=O$ and R^{1d} is a group R^{1a} wherein R^{1a} is selected from:

- a 6-membered monocyclic aryl group substituted by one to three substituents R^{10c} provided that when the aryl group is substituted by a methyl group, at least one substituent other than methyl is present;
- a 6-membered monocyclic heteroaryl group containing a single heteroatom ring member which is nitrogen, the heteroaryl group being substituted by one to three substituents R^{10c} ;
- a 5-membered monocyclic heteroaryl group containing up to three heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen and sulphur, and being optionally substituted by one to three substituents R^{10c} ;
- a 5-membered monocyclic heteroaryl group containing a single oxygen heteroatom ring member and optionally a nitrogen heteroatom ring member, and being substituted by one to three substituents R^{10c} provided that when the heteroaryl group contains a nitrogen ring member and is substituted by a methyl group, at least one substituent other than methyl is present;
- bicyclic aryl and heteroaryl groups having up to four heteroatom ring members and wherein either one ring is aromatic and the other ring is non-aromatic, or wherein both rings are aromatic, the bicyclic groups being optionally substituted by one to three substituents R^{10c} ;
- four-membered, six-membered and seven-membered monocyclic C-linked saturated heterocyclic groups containing up to three heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, the heterocyclic groups being optionally substituted by one to three substituents R^{10c} provided that when the heterocyclic group has six ring members and contains only one heteroatom which is oxygen, at least one substituent R^{10c} is present;

- a five membered monocyclic C-linked saturated heterocyclic group containing up to three heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, the heterocyclic group being optionally substituted by one to three substituents R^{10c} provided that when the heterocyclic group has five ring members and contains only one heteroatom which is nitrogen, at least one substituent R^{10c} other than hydroxy is present;
 - four and six membered cycloalkyl groups optionally substituted by one to three substituents R^{10c} ;
 - three and five membered cycloalkyl groups substituted by one to three substituents R^{10c} ; and
 - a group $Ph'CR^{17}R^{18}$ - where Ph' is a phenyl group substituted by one to three substituents R^{10c} ; R^{17} and R^{18} are the same or different and each is selected from hydrogen and methyl; or R^{17} and R^{18} together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a cyclopropyl group; or one of R^{17} and R^{18} is hydrogen and the other is selected from amino, methylamino, C_{1-4} acylamino, and C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonylamino;
 - unsubstituted phenyl and phenyl substituted with one or more methyl groups;
 - an unsubstituted 6-membered monocyclic heteroaryl group containing a single heteroatom ring member which is nitrogen;
 - unsubstituted furyl;
 - a 5-membered monocyclic heteroaryl group containing a single oxygen heteroatom ring member and a nitrogen heteroatom ring member, and being unsubstituted or substituted by one or more methyl groups;
 - an unsubstituted six membered monocyclic C-linked saturated heterocyclic group containing only one heteroatom which is oxygen; and
 - unsubstituted three and five membered cycloalkyl groups;
- and R^{10c} is selected from:
- halogen;
 - hydroxyl;
 - C_{1-4} hydrocarboxy optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxyl and halogen;

- C₁₋₄ hydrocarbyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxyl, halogen and five and six-membered saturated heterocyclic rings containing one or two heteroatom ring members selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur;
 - S-C₁₋₄ hydrocarbyl;
 - phenyl optionally substituted with one to three substituents selected from C₁₋₄ alkyl, trifluoromethyl, fluoro and chloro;
 - heteroaryl groups having 5 or 6 ring members and containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, the heteroaryl groups being optionally substituted with one to three substituents selected from C₁₋₄ alkyl, trifluoromethyl, fluoro and chloro;
 - 5- and 6-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic groups containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S and being optionally substituted with one to three substituents selected from C₁₋₄ alkyl, trifluoromethyl, fluoro and chloro;
 - cyano, nitro, amino, C₁₋₄ alkylamino, di-C₁₋₄alkylamino, C₁₋₄ acylamino, and C₁₋₄ alkoxycarbonylamino;
 - a group R¹⁹-S(O)_n- where n is 0, 1 or 2 and R¹⁹ is selected from amino; C₁₋₄ alkylamino; di-C₁₋₄alkylamino; C₁₋₄ hydrocarbyl; phenyl optionally substituted with one to three substituents selected from C₁₋₄ alkyl, trifluoromethyl, fluoro and chloro; and 5- and 6-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic groups containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S and being optionally substituted with one to three C₁₋₄ alkyl group substituents; and
 - a group R²⁰-Q- where R²⁰ is phenyl optionally substituted with one to three substituents selected from C₁₋₄ alkyl, trifluoromethyl, fluoro and chloro; and Q is a linker group selected from OCH₂, CH₂O, NH, CH₂NH, NCH₂, CH₂, NHCO and CONH.
113. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 82, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein A is NH(C=O) or (C=O), and R^{1d} is a group R^{1b}, wherein R^{1b} is a substituted phenyl group having from 1 to 4 substituents whereby:
- (i) when R^{1b} bears a single substituent it is selected from halogen, hydroxyl, C₁₋₄ hydrocarbyloxy optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxyl and halogen; C₁₋₄ hydrocarbyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxyl and halogen; heteroaryl group having 5 ring members; and 5- and 6-

membered non-aromatic heterocyclic groups, wherein the heteroaryl and heterocyclic groups contain up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S; [[and]] or

(ii) when R^{1b} bears 2, 3 or 4 substituents, each is selected from halogen, hydroxyl, C₁₋₄ hydrocarbyloxy optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxyl and halogen; C₁₋₄ hydrocarbyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from hydroxyl and halogen; heteroaryl groups having 5 ring members; amino; and 5- and 6-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic groups; or two adjacent substituents together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a 5-membered heteroaryl ring or a 5- or 6-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic ring; wherein the said heteroaryl and heterocyclic groups contain up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S.

114. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 82, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R^{1d} is a group R^{1c}, wherein R^{1c} is selected from:

- (a) a mono-substituted phenyl group wherein the substituent is selected from *o*-amino, *o*-methoxy; *o*-chloro; *p*-chloro; *o*-difluoromethoxy; *o*-trifluoromethoxy; *o*-*tert*-butoxy; *m*-methylsulphonyl and *p*-fluoro;
- (b) a 2,4- or 2,6-disubstituted phenyl group wherein one substituent is selected from *o*-methoxy, *o*-ethoxy, *o*-fluoro, and *p*-morpholino and the other substituent is selected from *o*-fluoro, *o*-chloro, *p*-chloro, and *p*-amino;
- (c) a 2,5-disubstituted phenyl group wherein one substituent is selected from *o*-fluoro and *o*-methoxy and the other substituent is selected from *m*-methoxy, *m*-isopropyl; *m*-fluoro, *m*-trifluoromethoxy, *m*-trifluoromethyl, *m*-methylsulphanyl, *m*-pyrrolidinylsulphonyl, *m*-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)sulphonyl, *m*-morpholinylsulphonyl, *m*-methyl, *m*-chloro and *m*-aminosulphonyl;
- (d) a 2,4,6-tri-substituted phenyl group where the substituents are the same or different and are each selected from *o*-methoxy, *o*-fluoro, *p*-fluoro, and *p*-methoxy provided that no more than one methoxy substituent is present;
- (e) a 2,4,5-tri-substituted phenyl group where the substituents are the same or different and are each selected from *o*-methoxy, *m*-chloro and *p*-amino;
- (f) unsubstituted benzyl; 2,6-difluorobenzyl; α , α -dimethylbenzyl; 1-phenylcycloprop-1-yl; and α -*tert*-butoxycarbonylamino benzyl;

- (g) an unsubstituted 2-furyl group or a 2-furyl group bearing a single substituent selected from 4-(morpholin-4-ylmethyl) and piperidinylmethyl; and optionally a further substituent selected from methyl;
- (h) an unsubstituted pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyridin-3-yl group;
- (i) isoxazolyl substituted by one or two C₁₋₄ alkyl groups;
- (j) 4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benz[d]isoxazol-3-yl;
- (k) 3-tert-butyl-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl;
- (l) quinoxaliny;
- (m) benz[c]isoxazol-3-yl;
- (n) 2-methyl-4-trifluoromethyl-thiazol-5-yl;
- (o) 3-phenylamino-2-pyridyl;
- (p) 1-toluenesulphonylpyrrol-3-yl;
- (q) 2,4-dimethoxy-3-pyridyl; and 6-chloro-2-methoxy-4-methyl-3-pyridyl;
- (r) imidazo[2,1-b]thiazol-6-yl;
- (s) 5-chloro-2-methylsulphanyl-pyrimidin-4-yl;
- (t) 3-methoxy-naphth-2-yl;
- (u) 2,3-dihydro-benz[1,4]dioxin-5-yl;
- (v) 2,3-dihydro-benzofuran group optionally substituted in the five membered ring by one or two methyl groups;
- (w) 2-methyl-benzoxazol-7-yl;
- (x) 4-aminocyclohex-1-yl;
- (y) 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-quinolin-6-yl;
- (z) 2-methyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzfuran-3-yl;
- (aa) 2-pyrimidinyl-1-piperidin-4-yl; and 1-(5-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyl)-piperidin-4-yl and 1-methylsulphonylpiperidin-4-yl;
- (ab) 1-cyanocyclopropyl; and
- (ac) N-benzylmorpholin-2-yl;
- and when A is NH(C=O), R^{1c} is additionally selected from:
- (ad) unsubstituted phenyl.

115. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 83, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein A is NH(C=O).

116. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 83, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein A is C=O.
117. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 101, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R¹ is unsubstituted.
118. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 101, or a salt or N-oxide thereof, wherein R¹ is substituted by 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 substituents R¹⁰.
119. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 82, wherein the compound is in the form of a salt.
- 120-135. (Canceled)